



KNOBSTONE HIKING
TRAIL ASSOCIATION

KHTA Board of Directors

August 3, 2021

Mr. Peter Ray
The Indiana Railroad Company
1500 South Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46225

KHTA Board of Directors
Charles C Andrew, President
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Dear Sir:

To date, the Knobstone Hiking Trail Association (KHTA) Board of Directors has received no response to its letter of May 27, 2021, requesting that the Indiana Railroad Company (IRRC) join with KHTA and other stakeholders in creating a pedestrian crossing at the location where Indian Hill Road (IHR) crosses the IRRC right of way near IN-45 in Trevlac, Brown County, Indiana.

An article in the Brown County Democrat, highlighting the present status of the Tecumseh closing at IHR, points to a number of these stakeholders: the KHTA, Hoosier Hikers Council, DINO (the Tecumseh races it organizes and the runners that participate), the Indiana Trail Running Association, and thousands of individuals hiking the Tecumseh for purposes ranging from day hikes to longer distance multiday hikes by Scouts training for Philmont.

This asset and its use contribute towards Quality-of-Place in Brown County – consistent with, and supporting of, the trails-friendly agenda of Governor Holcomb. However, it is not only Brown County that benefits from continuous passage along this trail. The Tecumseh Trail is a multi-county asset; as part of the 160 mile Knobstone Trail it is a manifestly regional asset.

During the Spring of 2020, when Indiana counties were completely focused on the pandemic, thoughtful discussion of the alternatives to IHR closure was impossible. Fifteen months later we have no progress in restoration of safe pedestrian passage at IHR. Instead, the recreational benefits to the public, and the Quality-of-Place have been diminished in Brown County and in every other county hosting the Knobstone Trail.

Now is the time for the Indiana Railroad Company to join with public stakeholders to effect a safe, simple, comprehensive, and long overdue restoration of passage of the Tecumseh Trail at Indian Hill Road. May we now have your positive response to this request?

Sincerely,

Charles C. Andrew